



OEM BULLETIN

BHS CORRUGATED/KHS

The Union of the European Lubricant Industry (UEIL) is the umbrella association of the European Lubricants Industry, representing their members and, in particular, the interests of SMEs and independent lubricant companies. To date, the UEIL represents more than 450 lubricant companies, who manufacture and distribute lubricant products under their own various trademarks throughout the European Union. With members in 21 European Countries and a unique collective experience of lubricants and the lubricants market, UEIL is the sole representative body for independent manufacturers of lubricants in Europe and has been recognised as such by the European Commission. It is UEIL's policy to favour free and fair competition within the scope of prevailing EU and national laws.

It is key for UEIL and its members, which **defend a free market and fair competition**, that lubricant manufacturers can have access to the references of oil technical specifications of industrial machinery. Otherwise, end-users will be deprived of choice, and the market access for competing products will be hampered.

Summary of the case

The UEIL Technical & Competition Committee was contacted by members regarding the lack of references of oil technical information for BHS Corrugated equipment.

State of play

UEIL addressed this issue by formally contacting BHS Corrugated in March 2018, requesting access to the specifications for its OEM oils. UEIL also enquired about the procedure to become a recommended supplier to BHS.

In July 2018, a law firm representing BHS Corrugated's interests pushed back against UEIL's request, arguing that it lacked legal grounds. UEIL swiftly reiterated its request, highlighting that the technical information that BHS Corrugated was withholding posed risks under EU competition rules.

From July 2019, UEIL also engaged with KHS, requesting access to the specification for their oils. Owing to the lack of satisfactory replies, UEIL resorted to obtaining legal counsel on the way forward with BHS Corrugated and KHS.

Eventually, the requested specifications were made available by both companies, although they were already out of date at the time of their publication. However, as the information addressed the concerns of UEIL members when the case began in 2018 and as no additional complaints were received about the situation during the first half of 2025, the Technical and Competition Committee believes that this matter has been resolved.

Conclusion

UEIL thanks all supporting parties for their cooperation in resolving this matter.

Brussels, July 2025